

Transparency and Communication Committee
Meeting Minutes 4/26/11 5:00pm

Present:

Diane Geiger
Kathy Zembrodt
Don Dornheggen
Joe Geiger

Topic: Park Hills city website, web hosting, and costs for continued web support

A general summary of the layout of the city website was presented. Processes involving posting information to the website were briefly explained and discussed.

The differences between webhosting, internet service providers, email clients, and domain registrations were discussed, along with the costs associated with each.

Kathy Zembrodt discovered that Insight had been billing the City of Park Hills nearly \$100 per month for webhosting. Don Dornheggen explained that this is a service that is not being used. Webhosting and email services are free through Microsoft Office Live, and we should therefore not be paying another company that offers these identical services. Domain registration is \$20 per year and is currently provided through Ellanet.

The future role of NKOL was also discussed. It was agreed that NKOL should be used for services like software installations/upgrades, new computer purchases, antivirus programs, and general technical support. It was decided that the costs of changing webhosts and email programs should be explored further before switching. Several questions were sent to Ben Hanks at NKOL and will be reported later.

The subject of secure communications was discussed. Currently, city employees and representatives are using Microsoft's Hotmail email accounts. These accounts are protected using hypertext transfer protocol secure (https), the same level of protection offered when conducting online banking, e-commerce, etc. Other security features include single-use-codes to access email accounts when logging on from unknown servers and secure sockets layer (SSL).